IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-19 and 22, amend claim 20-21 and 23, and add new claims 26-27. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) The method for automatic calibration and set-up, between production runs, of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices according to claim ~~19~~ 26, wherein said step of adjusting said dispensed amount of liquid product further comprises utilizing a control system algorithm to compare said target fill volume/weight to said actual amount dispensed and automatically adjust, either upward or downward, said first metering device's operating parameters.

21. (Currently amended) The method for automatic calibration and set-up, between production runs, of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices according to claim ~~19~~ 26, wherein said steps of cycling, weighing, comparing, adjusting, and repeating are performed for a plurality of metering devices contained in said liquid filling system.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) The method for automatic calibration and set-up of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices according to claim ~~22~~ 27, wherein said step of periodic fill weight verification further comprises;

suspending, for a brief period, normal operation of said liquid filling system;

positioning one or more filling nozzles over a product collection receptacle;

cycling a first metering device to dispense an amount of liquid product through one of said nozzles into said collection receptacle;

weighing said amount of liquid product dispensed by said first metering device;

comparing said dispensed amount of liquid product to a target fill volume/weight;

adjusting, if necessary, said amount of liquid product dispensed by said first metering device; and

repeating said cycling, weighing, comparing, and adjusting steps until said amount of liquid product dispensed by said first metering device is determined to be within a specified tolerance range.

24. (Original) The method for automatic calibration and set-up of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices according to claim 23, wherein said step of adjusting said dispensed amount of liquid product further comprises utilizing a control system algorithm to compare said target fill volume/weight to said actual amount dispensed and automatically adjust, either upward or downward, said first metering device's operating parameters.

25. (Original) The method for automatic calibration and set-up of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices according to claim 23, wherein said steps of cycling, weighing, comparing, adjusting, and repeating are performed for a plurality of metering devices contained in said liquid filling system and, when complete, normal operation of said liquid filling system is resumed.

26. (New) A method for automatic calibration and set-up, between production runs, of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices, comprising the steps of;

prime/air purging liquid product into a receptacle;

metering device calibration, wherein said step of metering device calibration further comprises;

positioning one or more filling nozzles over a product collection receptacle;

cycling a first metering device to dispense an amount of liquid product through one of said nozzles into said collection receptacle;

weighing said amount of liquid product dispensed by said first metering device;

comparing said dispensed amount of liquid product to a target fill volume/weight;

adjusting, if necessary, said amount of liquid product dispensed by said first metering device; and

repeating said cycling, weighing, comparing, and adjusting steps until said amount of liquid product dispensed by said first metering device is determined to be within a specified tolerance range; and

emptying said receptacle.

27. (New) A method for automatic calibration and set-up, between production runs, of a liquid filling system's plurality of metering devices, comprising the steps of;

prime/air purging liquid product into a receptacle;

periodic fill weight verification; and

emptying said receptacle.